

SWANN WON'T ACT ON CHARGE AGAINST POLICE OFFICIAL

Declares Interference With
Rich Man's Arrest Not
Reported Officially.

ENIGHT IS SILENT.

Declines to Tell Why Girl's
Alleged Assault Is Not
Held.

Notwithstanding the existence of a warrant, as acknowledged by Magistrate McAdoo for the arrest of a wealthy merchant accused of attacking a girl in his home on Riverside Drive, and the further admission of Mrs. Ellen O'Grady, fifty deputy police commissioner, that there is truth in the story that a former inspector of police and another official of the department prevented the service of the warrant, District Attorney Swann said today his office would have nothing to do with the matter.

"Officially," he said, "I know nothing of such an incident. It has not been called to my attention through official channels and is therefore not in this office."

Police Commissioner Enright refused to receive inquiries to-day regarding the report. A note informing him that Deputy Commissioner Ellen O'Grady had full information in the matter and was willing to discuss it was returned to the writer unopened.

The report said Mrs. O'Grady's complaint had led to a request by Mayor Hylan for the accused official's resignation.

Chief City Magistrate McAdoo is authority for the statement that he recently issued a warrant for a merchant who was accused of getting a young woman to his house with another girl she trusted and there attacking her after the other girl had abandoned her. The report is that the Magistrate's attention was called to the case by Mrs. O'Grady, who sent detectives to serve a warrant issued by him.

According to the report, the detectives who went to make the arrest, were met in the business man's outside office by the official and a former Police Inspector, who volunteered to go in and find the man, only to come back fifteen minutes later and report he had disappeared.

"The part of this story concerning me has a great deal of truth," Mrs. O'Grady said.

The Deputy Commissioner, asked if she had any controversy with Police Commissioner Enright over the matter, replied:

"I never have had a disagreement with the Commissioner."

"Then why did you go to see the Mayor?" the reporter went on.

"Now you are trying to get the story," was the reply. "It is a Police Department matter and all information will have to come from Commissioner Enright."

Rumors that the case had any connection with the resignation of John C. Hackett, Secretary to the Commissioner, last Friday were met yesterday with the statement that Mr. Hackett had resigned early that summer and had insisted on an acceptance before the beginning of 1920.

This was also held to dispose of the story that Mr. Hackett had been ordered out of the department by Mayor Hylan after a squabble with a Brooklyn policeman who was suspended for half a day and then reinstated by the Mayor.

Chief Magistrate McAdoo said that he issued a warrant for a prominent business man on the girl's complaint. "Since the man has not been arrested," said the Chief Magistrate, "it would not be possible for me to make the name public."

"The charge as they were placed before me that concerned any member of the Police Department."

It is said the alleged attack of which the girl's complaint took place about two months ago in a house to which she had been invited for the evening by a girl friend. It is said the found three or two men and that as she told the story afterward, she refused to drink wine which was offered but did not succeed in getting away from the house until long after midnight.

The girl is said to come of an excellent family which, because of publicity was loath to make any complaint. The matter finally reached the ears of Mrs. O'Grady who caused an investigation to be made. According to report she sent District Attorney Talley who advised them there was no necessity for a warrant; that they should take the man into custody immediately. Mr. Talley said he knew nothing about the case.

Grade of Levee Hill Will Be Reduced.

New York motorists who have found it necessary or desirable to use the highway to Boston, will rejoice in the news that Levee Hill, which is about five miles west of Worcester, Mass., will be reduced. The state legislature has appropriated \$10,000 to cut down the grade. Levee Hill is the steepest grade between New York and Boston. It is a constant annoyance to drivers.

Canada's Premier Thanks Rockefeller.

OTTAWA, Jan. 2.—Sir Robert Borden has written to Dr. D. B. Macdonald, president of the Canadian Red Cross, thanking him for Mr. Rockefeller's gift of \$50,000 to promote medical education in Canada.

"The Blue Bird Sings in New York," For This Great City Is a Happy One, Says Maeterlinck, Poet of Happiness

Author of "The Life of the Bee" Likens Metropolis to a Great Bee Hive, the Most Beautiful and Absorbing He Has Ever Seen, and the American Woman Is Its Cherished Queen—She "Has Natural Beauty, the Charm of Health, Simplicity, Cleanliness."

Marguerite Mooers Marshall.

TO Maurice Maeterlinck, author of that poetic treatise of science, that scientific poem, the "Life of the Bee"—New York is a bee-hive, the biggest, most absorbing bee-hive he has ever seen.

There is the uncanny yet ordered flight of the workers—swift, intent, direct motion; there is the multitude of habitations, little cells piled on little cells; there is the cherished queen of the hive—the American woman; and there is the incessant buzz of motors, motors, among them, those that have been rushing about with Maeterlinck and Miss Maeterlinck ever since their arrival in New York a week ago.

"Always there have been motor cars for us," the great dramatist assured me almost plaintively, "and one cannot see a city from motor cars. I do not consider that I have seen New York and I hope some day soon that I may go for a quiet walk through its streets with my wife. For it is not only beautiful in a way no one who had not seen it could imagine, but it is most interesting in its rush, its movement, its atmosphere of the mighty hive."

We were in the lofty studio apartment at Sixth Avenue and 40th Street, where the author of "The Blue Bird" has found shelter under the wing of his friend Henry Russell. It was he who assured me that I might have just five minutes with "the Master."

As head of the Boston Opera Company Mr. Russell, of course, long ago "mailed" the Blue Bird. "That together with the stained-glass atmosphere and the feeling that Mr. Russell hovered behind the arras with a stop-watch, combined to form a rather oppressive introduction to a truly simple, because truly great, man."

Clear blue eyes, with just a hint of dream in them, the square, full face one sees in the portraits of good burghers by Flemish artists, a straight sweep of nearly white hair, a tall, thick-set figure and an expression of beautiful and impressive serenity—this is the man who has been called "the Belgian Shakespeare" and is one of the four living writers with a key to Fairyland.

If he has not yet "seen" New York, he has seen New York women, for he has been entertained at dinner by Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt Jr. and some of the most charming debutantes appeared in special Blue Bird ballgowns for him.

"The women of America are beautiful," he declared gravely, "and in simplicity, cleanliness, abroad, the women are more painted, less natural. Constantly in New York one meets a woman with a beauty so rare, so distinguished, that one longs to stop her, to ask who she is, to express the admiration she inspires."

"And Mrs. Maeterlinck for an exact interpreter not for Maeterlinck but for me, because my questions were too quick for the dramatist's English ear. I couldn't forget I was talking against a stop-watch!"

"The atmosphere of New York," he said, "is like the atmosphere of the East. There are so many natural ways of enjoyment. You are a happy city. Here the Blue Bird sings."

And do you still believe in that formula for happiness which you put into "The Blue Bird"? I asked.

With unhesitating decision he bent his head.

"To find happiness," he said, "you must look within your own home—your own heart."

"Is the world going to find any happiness during the coming year?" I queried. "There have been so many years of suffering and sorrow. Are you optimistic about the return of the 'Blue Bird' in the immediate future?"

"But, yes!" exclaimed Maeterlinck, a smile lighting the pellucid blue eyes. "The war is over, the agonies of the years of war are past. There is unrest and discontent and suffering still, but I believe conditions will grow better gradually and that the world will grow happier."

"On us rests a great responsibility. As I have written, we are the mandala."

WILLS \$150,000 TO SISTERS.

Miss Anna T. Van Santvoord Left \$200,000 Estate.

By the will of Miss Anna Townsend Van Santvoord, who left an estate of approximately \$200,000, the residuary estate of \$150,000 is divided equally between her two sisters, Katherine Van Santvoord of No. 322 West 75th Street, and Zaidee Van Santvoord of No. 520 Park Avenue.

Her will was probated today in the Surrogate's Court.

The testator also made bequests ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to a number of relatives, \$20,000 to the Women's Union Missionary Society, and \$20,000 to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. Her will was probated today in the Surrogate's Court.

Cornell Clubs' Last Concert at Waldorf—Tomorrow Night.

The Cornell University Glee, Mandolin and Banjo Clubs will give the last concert of their Christmas holiday tour at the Waldorf-Astoria tomorrow night. Every member was given a gift of \$1.00. The Cornell Glee Club and the Cornell Banjo Club are constant being stilled there.

Found Dying, Gas Tube in Mouth.

A man, believed to be S. Prowler, thirty, was taken from a rooming house at No. 40 West 17th Street today and rushed to the Harlem Hospital. He was found with a gas tube in his mouth and the gas turned on. He had rented the room yesterday.



MAURICE MAETERLINCK

torus of the dead. In our hearts and lives they who died nobly and heroically live again. We must make for them a happier and better world, their greatness, their strength of sacrifice, working in us and through us, will shape new laws of justice and truth."

"And you think there will be no more wars?"

"I am no prophet," Maeterlinck shrugged. "It might have been a better peace. The most I can say is that we hope there will not be another war."

MOST DANGEROUS MAN SUED BY WIFE

Asks for the Annulment of Her Marriage to James Comiskey.

Suit for annulment of her marriage was filed today by Mrs. Irene Comiskey, No. 257 West Sixty-ninth Street, who said she had been separated from her husband, James Comiskey, since October last. Justice Greenbaum granted her petition for service by publication.

Mrs. Comiskey said they were married in West Hoboken Aug. 29, 1908, when she was a minor. She declared she had met her husband for the first time the evening before.

In the magazine section of The Sunday World of Sept. 29, 1908, there appeared a picture of James Comiskey in connection with a story bearing the heading: "The Man Who Killed Men in New York." A sketch of James Comiskey, or "Big Comiskey," as he was known to the underworld, was also published. The story declared that he was "probably the most dangerous of the criminals in the World's select gallery of men."

He and "Dutch" Jordan were jointly accused in connection with the murder of Charles S. Peck, a wealthy real estate dealer, which remains an unsolved mystery.

Discuss Plans for Zionist Drive.

The Zionist Organization of America is about to start its campaign to raise \$10,000,000 for the Palestine Restoration Fund. New York's quota is \$3,000,000. Plans for collecting New York's share were discussed at a luncheon of the rabbi today at the City Club. On Monday there will be a banquet at the Hotel Astor for 1,200 workers, and on Tuesday a luncheon will be given to 300 Christian workers.

Fire in Perth Amboy Power Plant.

The \$1,000,000 power house of the Public Service Corporation at Perth Amboy, N. J., was put out of business this morning by a \$50,000 fire caused by a short circuit in a burner. The plant furnished light for Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, Rahway, Metuchen and New Brunswick. Some of these places will be supplied to-night from the Elizabeth power house.

In Irons, Mutiny Charged.

Emmanuel Lopez, a Spanish Christian on the British steamship City of Puebla, which arrived yesterday from Manila, was in iron chains and was charged with mutiny and assault on the high seas. He was turned over to the immigration authorities on Ellis Island. According to Capt. Thomas O. Rainer of the vessel, Lopez two weeks ago assaulted Third Assistant Engineer Robert McEachern, stabbing him twice in the arm. McEachern was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

Youth Held in Bond Theft.

Edward Blake, twenty-two years old, No. 101 West 34th Street, was held in \$15,000 bail for examination Jan. 7 by Magistrate Keegan in Centre Street Court today on a charge of grand larceny. It was alleged that he stole \$15,000 in Liberty bonds on Sept. 15.

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BREAKS INTO JAIL FOR FOOD AND BED

Wanderer Steals Openly to Get Arrested—Glad He Is Sentenced.

Because he wanted a place to sleep over New Year's, and a square meal to start 1920, Harry Woods, fifty-six, stole half a dozen handkerchiefs and a package of chewing gum. He committed the theft Dec. 30 in Wana-massa and was arrested by store detectives.

He told his story this morning to Justice O'Keefe, Salmon and Moss. He was dressed in a light summer suit, liberally covered with patches and showing the effect of exposure. He said the last place he lived was at No. 162 Third Avenue.

"I could get a warm bed and something to eat in jail," he explained. "Do you want to go to jail for awhile, or do you want to stay out?"

"Yes, I think it will be good for me," the prisoner replied.

"Thirty days in the workhouse," said the court.

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NEW PRESIDENTS SIT FIRST TIME ON ESTIMATE BOARD

La Guardia and Curran Hear School Building Row—\$8,000,000 More Appropriated.

Aldermanic President F. H. La Guardia and Manhattan Borough President Henry H. Curran sat for the first time to-day as members of the Estimate Board. They took no active part in the discussion, but found it interesting. They heard, for one thing, Comptroller Craig tell Anning S. Pratt, President of the Board of Education, to his face that the Board of Superintendents runs the public schools of New York, and that all the Board of Education does "is to make a show of itself."

President Pratt and Education Commissioner Joseph E. Yaska were before the Board to speak on the school building programme. The Board passed an appropriation of \$8,000,000 for schools, which is to be added to the \$7,000,000 appropriated last Tuesday. La Guardia and Curran voted for the amount without committing themselves on school sites.

Commissioner Yaska argued for the erection of a new Julia Richman High School. He said while he believed in building more elementary schools he regards additional high schools imperative.

"Our first duty," said the Mayor, "is to reduce the part time in the elementary schools."

Comptroller Craig declared, in support of his criticism of the Board of Education, that the Board of Superintendents had submitted a plan for a teachers' training school which for size would make the Metropolitan Opera House "look like thirty cents."

"It is claimed all along by the school authorities that the elementary schools are overcrowded everywhere," he said, "when, as a matter of fact, in a great many schools the seating capacity far exceeds the actual attendance."

Commissioner Yaska partly admitted the truth of this by stating a good many mothers will not send their children to certain schools.

President Pratt was asked why there are not schools in existence to represent the \$10,000,000 appropriated for that purpose a year ago. He said the city was not able to get the labor, and that there was a serious shortage of draftsmen. He said there were instances in which the Estimate Board opposed wage increases.

"I think the main source of your trouble is attributable to the action of your school officials," said the Comptroller. "Some one ought to see charges against these persons and put them outside where they'd feel the icy cold of the winter. I lay the entire blame for conditions in our schools at the door of the State Commissioner of Education."

Edward Becker Struck by Truck.

Edward Becker, a guest at the Prince George Hotel, was struck by a motor truck to-day while crossing Fifth Avenue at 28th Street, and suffered a fractured ankle and severe bruises. Mr. Becker is President of the Polaris Spring Water Company at Island Stirling, Me., and has offices at No. 1180 Broadway. The truck was driven by Louis Minkoff, No. 24 Larimer Street, Brooklyn. He was not arrested.

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DEATH'S MYSTERY IS NEAR SOLUTION, SAYS CONAN DOYLE

LONDON, Jan. 2.—"I believe another generation will not have passed before the age-long mystery of death will have been solved and the existence and communion of the spirit people universally acknowledged and approved," said Sir A. Conan Doyle in a New Year's message.

The noted English author of detective stories and more recently advocate of Spiritualism said the hope of Spiritualists is for progress toward national enlightenment.

The substance of an article that is to appear in the next issue of the Hibbert Journal, leading philosophical quarterly, from the pen of Sir Oliver Lodge also was disclosed today. In it Sir Oliver calls on the Church to "cast off its hard shell of doctrine" and investigate "spiritualistic phenomena."

The Church, he says, already has discarded its old beliefs in the "fixity of eternal fate at death or in two extreme regions in the hereafter" but has not yet constituted for itself a new creed of equal strength.

"It will be the miracle of this generation," he asserts, "to find that by the kindly help of living persons who possess certain faculties, we may communicate with the dead."

"Invariably one communicates most by little traits," he says. "Special reminiscences give striking proofs of identity of the spirits." He says his son Raymond, who was killed in the war, maintains close touch with his family.

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